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## FAX TRANSMISSION

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| To                  | USPTO            |
| Examiner            | Joseph R. Kosack |
| Group Art Unit      | 1626             |
| From                | Lisa A. Dixon    |
| Date                | July 18, 2006    |
| Application No.     | 10/821,793       |
| Attorney Docket No. | VPI/03-170 US    |
| Total Pages         | 37               |

### Message or Comment

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VPI/03-170 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/821,793  
Confirmation No.: 9337  
Examiner: Joseph R. Kosack  
Group Art Unit: 1626  
Applicants: Luc J. Farmer et al.  
Filing Date: April 09, 2004  
For: INHIBITORS OF SERINE PROTEASES,  
PARTICULARLY HCV NS3-NS4A PROTEASE

Cambridge, Massachusetts  
July 18, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in reply to the January 18, 2006 Office Action in the above-identified application. Applicants have submitted herewith a three-month extension of time to reply to the Office Action. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), the time for reply to this Office Action is, therefore, up to and including July 18, 2006. Accordingly, this reply is timely filed.

Amendments to the claims begin at page 2 of this Reply.

Remarks begin at page 25 of this Reply.

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